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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Int'l App No: PCT/CA00/00813  
Int'l Filing date: 13 July 2000 (13.07.00)  
Priority date: 13 July 1999 (13.07.99)  
Title: METHOD AND DEVICES FORMULTIPLEXING AND DE-  
MULTIPLEXING MULTIPLE WAVELENGTHS  
Applicant: Alavie

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please enter the following preliminary amendment to the claims of the application:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 2,3,5,7, 11 to 17 as originally filed with the attached claims 1 to 17. Please also add new claims 18 and 19.

2. (amended) The filter device according to claim 1 wherein the optical branching means is a fiber optic circulator and said at least one odd/even select filter transmits one of said odd and even components along one of said at least second and third waveguides and reflects the other of said odd and even wavelength components through the other of said at least second and third waveguides.

3. (amended) The filter device according to claim 1 wherein the optical branching means is an optical coupler and said at least one odd/even select filter means is one filter optically coupled to one of said second and third waveguides, and wherein said at least one odd/even select filter transmits one of said odd and even components along one of said at least second and third